

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 SY-05 /057 R

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APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

SCA/SCS:NPELLETREAU (SUB)

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R 171254Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CASC, NI, US

SUBJECT: GUTHRIE AND SPRIGGS

REF: LAGOS 10572 PAR 1

1. DEPARTMENT IS RECEIVING BRIEFINGS BY LOCKHEED EACH TIME LOCKHEED EXECUTIVE GARMANY, NOW VISITING LAGOS, TELEPHONES HIS OFFICE IN GEORGIA. ON SEPTEMBER 10 GARMANY SAID DEPORTATION ORDER FOR GUTHRIE HAD BEEN SIGNED AND THAT GUTHRIE WOULD PROBABLY BE FREED THAT EVENING. ON SEPTEMBER 13 GARMANY REPORTED THAT GUTHRIE STILL IN PRISON BUT COULD BE RELEASED AT ANY TIME. ON SEPTEMBER 15 HE CONFIRMED THAT DEPORTATION ORDER HAD BEEN SIGNED BY CHIEF OF STATE (SIC), BUT THAT EMBASSY HAD ADVISED HIM THAT ACTUAL RELEASE MIGHT NOT TAKE PLACE FOR ANOTHER SIX WEEKS. GARMANY IS ALSO REPORTED AS HAVING SAID THAT VISITS TO GUTHRIE HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO ONE PER MONTH, AND THAT LOCKHEED THEREFORE UNABLE SEE HIM AGAIN UNTIL OCTOBER. HE ALERTED HIS OFFICE

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TO POSSIBILITY THAT GUTHRIE MIGHT BE TAKEN FROM PRISON DI-

RECTLY TO AIRPORT AND THAT FIRST NEWS OF HIS RELEASE WOULD THEN BE RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM GUTHRIE WHEN HE REACHES FOREIGN DESTINATION. ALTHOUGH DISAPPOINTED THAT GUTHRIE NOT RELEASED LAST WEEKEND, GARMANY'S OFFICE STILL INTERPRETS HIS MOST RECENT INFORMATION AS BEING VERY OPTIMISTIC.

2. SINCE GARMANY'S CONVERSATIONS SUBJECT TO MONITORING BY NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES, HIS OFFICE HAS NOT PRESSED HIM FOR FULL EXPLANATIONS. LOCKHEED DID NOT LEARN, FOR EXAMPLE, HOW GARMANY FOUND OUT THAT DEPORTATION ORDER HAS BEEN SIGNED OR WHY ITS EFFECT NOT EXPECTED BY EMBASSY TO BE IMMEDIATE.

3. LOCKHEED HAS BEEN ASKING DEPARTMENT FOR CONFIRMATION AND FURTHER EXPLANATION OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GARMANY. REFTEL UNFORTUNATELY OFFERS LITTLE INSIGHT INTO HIS INFORMATION AND IN FACT IMPLIES THAT FMG PROCESSING OF EMBASSY REQUEST FOR DEPORTATION NOT NEARLY AS FAR ALONG AS GARMANY SEEMS TO BELIEVE. BOTH DEPARTMENT AND LOCKHEED THEREFORE STILL WONDERING ABOUT MEANING OF GARMANY'S INFORMATION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: LOCKHEED GEORGIA EXPECTS GARMANY TO RETURN HOME SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RPT NOT REQUEST EMBASSY REPORT ON FOREGOING IF EMBASSY BELIEVE GARMANY WILL BE ABLE EXPLAIN FULLY WHEN HE RETURNS AND RPT AND THERE NOTHING DEPARTMENT AND LOCKHEED NEED TO KNOW OR DO ABOUT CASE UNTIL THEN. IF, ON OTHER HAND, EMBASSY HAS OTHER INFORMATION OR INTERPRETATION OF GARMANY'S INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED ASAP.

5. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO RESPOND TO FORMAL REQUIREMENTS CITED IN PARS 5 AND 8 OF STATE 218059. DEPARTMENT WOULD STILL LIKE TO KNOW CHRONOLOGY OF GUTHRIE AND SPRIGGS' DETENTION AND RELEASE ON BAIL AS REQUESTED STATE 208124 AND 218059 (PAR 6).

6. FYI. INTERPOL IS PROCESSING DIRECT REPLY TO NIGERIAN REQUEST OF JUNE 8(RECEIVED AUGUST 9). WE WILL BE ADVISED OF MESSAGE AND CONTENTS. END FYI.
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